

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Lt. Gov. Crouch, Indiana Broadband Office designate
the Town of Etna Green as a Broadband Ready Community**

INDIANAPOLIS (August 12, 2021) – Today, Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch and the Indiana Broadband Office announced the Town of Etna Green is now designated as an official Broadband Ready Community. The Broadband Ready Communities Program was created as a tool to encourage broadband development throughout Indiana.

The Broadband Ready Community certification sends a signal to the telecommunication industry that a community has taken steps to reduce barriers to broadband infrastructure investment.

"Our administration remains focused on getting high-speed, reliable internet service to unserved and underserved Hoosiers. Congratulations to the Town of Etna Green as it joins dozens of other Indiana communities that are now broadband ready and looking to attract this critical investment," Crouch said. "This designation comes at a great time as Indiana further invests in expanding broadband infrastructure".

The certification was approved by the Indiana Broadband Office following the adoption of a Broadband Ready Community ordinance by the Etna Green Town Council.

"Our local leaders understand the importance of broadband availability to attract and retain residents and employers to our area. We know our community is well-positioned between Plymouth and Warsaw, so we are being proactive so that broadband providers will consider opportunities in our community. We look forward to working with IEDC, KEDCO, and other partners to make it easy to pursue these opportunities in Etna Green," said Susan Klinefelter of the Etna Green Town Council.

According to Scott Rudd, Director of the Indiana Broadband Office, Communities are passing Broadband Ready ordinances faster than ever.

"Adding the Town of Etna Green to this growing list shows that small towns can do big things. It is great to see a town with leadership that understands the importance of affordable and reliable broadband access for all," Rudd said.

Via 2020 legislation, the Broadband Ready Community Program was transitioned from the Indiana Economic Development Corporation ([IEDC](#)) to the Office of Community and Rural Affairs ([OCRA](#)). [IBO](#) began the day-to-day management of the Broadband Ready Community Program on July 1, 2020. For more information, visit in.gov/indianabroadband.

Under the leadership of [Lieutenant Governor Suzanne Crouch](#), who also serves as the Secretary of Rural Development, the Indiana Broadband Office (IBO) mission is to assist residents in need of affordable and reliable broadband connectivity. This mission of reaching Hoosiers where they live, work and play is accomplished by communicating with stakeholders, providing resources to a diverse audience, and leveraging established relationships with elected officials, associations, and providers. For more information, visit in.gov/broadband.